



# Rural District of Warwick.

## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1940,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

# Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

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1941.

I, MILVERTON HILL,  
LEAMINGTON SPA,  
December, 1941.

**To the Warwick Rural District Council.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1940 ; it is regretted that it has been delayed for various causes.

Again, as instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is a short statement of fact with no comment. All the available information is, however, being kept for record and, if required, can be produced.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the Council and my colleagues,

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,  
Medical Officer of Health.

# Warwick Rural District.

## A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1940	...	...	16,340	
	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births { Legitimate	239	128	111	} Birth Rate 15.2
{ Illegitimate	10	3	7	
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	16	
Deaths ... ..	167	77	90	Death Rate 10.2
Adjusting Factor for Death Rate	...	...	...	.96
Adjusted Death Rate	...	...	...	9.8
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis	...	1	
	,, other causes	...	—	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	26	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			27	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	1	
,,     ,,     Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—	
,,     ,,     Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—	

## B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) *Public Health Officers*.—No change.

2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities*.—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	... 1	... 14	... 15
Enteric Fever	... 2	... 4	... 6
Tuberculosis...	... 1	... 6	... 7
			—
			28
			—

## C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water*.—Coventry Corporation completed the extension of a water main to serve Stoneleigh Village during the year.

Following a Public Inquiry held in April, 1940, approval was given to a modified scheme for a water supply for the Parish of Radford Semele. The supply will be from a deep borehole which was sunk in 1938 and will extend over the area where samples taken from existing shallow wells have shown a preponderance of water unfit for drinking purposes. This area chiefly comprises the village. I understand that the work of mainlaying and installation of pumping equipment will be undertaken during the ensuing year.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—There was one small addition to the various sewerage schemes during the year, this being at Leek Wootton, where improvements in the sewage disposal arrangements were carried out.

2. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—Conversion of the remaining privies and pail closets to water closets in the Parish of Whitnash was continued wherever possible. Conversions included 32 pail closets serving houses owned by the Council.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—Public cleansing is carried out in eight parishes by direct labour.

#### **D. HOUSING.**

3. *Overcrowding*.—There was again little change in the extent of overcrowding generally. A number of cases occasioned by the voluntary billeting of evacuees and war workers was reported, but upon investigation few were found to infringe the now suspended Housing Act standard. A great deal of temporary billeting took place towards the end of the year, but the extent of possible overcrowding could not be ascertained.

4. *Re-housing*.—The twelve new houses built in Bubbenhall to rehouse tenants from Clearance Areas in that village were completed and tenanted.

The 14 houses in course of erection in the Parish of Cubbington were not completed.

Fourteen houses for which assistance under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, had been promised were completed. Six of them were built in the Parish of Stoneleigh, four being occupied by tenants from condemned houses and two by agricultural workers; four were built in the Parish of Wasperton and occupied by tenants from condemned houses; two for agricultural workers were built in Bishops Tachbrook and the remaining two, also for agricultural workers, were built in the Parish of Norton Lindsey.



Throughout the district, houses subject to Clearance or Demolition Orders which became vacant during the year were in most cases relet to eligible tenants, such houses being made subject to licences to relet.

6. *Fitness of Houses.*—Twenty-one houses were thoroughly repaired following notices issued in relation to houses calling for urgent attention.

### E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

*Milk Supply.*—The position regarding the production of milk remains fairly satisfactory. The year brought some notable improvements in cowshed and dairy buildings, resulting largely from intimations forwarded to farmers during the previous year. These improvements included the erection of four new cowsheds, twelve cowsheds entirely rebuilt, the erection of ten new cooler houses, thorough repairs to six other cooler houses, the installation of steam sterilizers at seven more farms, and the discontinuance of cow-keeping in three unsatisfactory sheds.

There was a considerable increase in the number of milking machines installed and at practically all farms producing Accredited milk sterilizing appliances are in use.

The County Council issued 77 licences to accredited producers in this district, an increase of five compared with last year, and seven licences to producers of Tuberculin Tested milk, as compared with six last year.

### F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

*Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1933.*

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1934	...	9	48	—	11	—	—
1935	...	8	16	—	10	—	—
1936	...	26	23	—	7	1	—
1937	...	11	15	—	20	—	1
1938	...	14	23	—	17	—	1
1939	...	11	47	—	11	—	—
1940	...	10	17	3	18	—	1

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1940.

*School Closures :—*

Leek Wootton, 9th to 29th Jan. Measles.

Whitnash, 26th Jan. to 19th Feb. „

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
1 ... ..	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
5 ... ..	—	1	...	1	1	...	—	1
15 ... ..	—	3	...	—	1	...	—	1
25 ... ..	1	1	...	1	—	...	—	—
35 ... ..	3	1	...	—	1	...	—	—
45 ... ..	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
55 ... ..	1	1	...	—	—	...	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	...	—	1	...	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	7	...	2	4	...	1	1

During the year 18 new cases of tuberculosis have been notified, 12 of which were of pulmonary and 6 of other forms of tuberculosis. The following shews in a tabular form the new cases and deaths since 1924 :—

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
New cases ...	18	14	16	8	11	19	15	16
Deaths ...	12	8	8	8	6	6	5	6
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
New cases ...	14	8	11	20	20	22	23	18
Deaths ...	7	3	6	6	5	7	4	3

2 deaths of persons belonging to the District were due to pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

*Sanatorium.*—During the year 4 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, and 2 were discharged ; 2 died.

## REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and is being kept for reference.

TABLE I.

## RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S  
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1940.

			Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
				Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...		514	1	34	27
Dairies, Milkshops and } Cow Sheds	...		308	—	43	32
Bakehouses	...	...	12	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses & Butchers' Shops			206	—	—	—
Occasional Slaughter on } Private Premise	...		92	—	—	—
Food Preparation Premises	...		46	—	—	—
Shops	...	...	3	—	1	—
Factories	...	...	6	—	—	—
Water Supply	...	...	38	—	19	12
House Drainage	...	...	62	—	20	17
Water-closets	...	...	6	1	1	1
Conversion of Earth Closets to Water Closets	...	...	16	—	4	4
Conversion of Privies to Earth Closets	...	...	16	—	8	4
Ashbins	...	...	8	—	4	4
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...		8	—	4	3
Miscellaneous Nuisances	...	...	26	—	13	10
TOTALS	...	...	1367	2	151	114
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...		...	...	No. 106
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	...		...	...	66
Ditto of Water condemned as unfit for use	...	...		...	...	36
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...		...	...	32

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.  
RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1940 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1934	13,740	170	12.4	4	24	128	9.3
1935	14,050	179	12.7	6	33	141	10.0
1936	14,450	171	11.8	5	29	145	10.0
1937	14,780	188	12.7	13	69	159	10.1
1938	15,020	224	14.9	9	40	138	9.2
1939	15,870	201	12.9	8	40	167	10.5
1940	16,340	249	15.2	7	26	167	10.2



TABLE III.—RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE  
YEAR 1940.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox ... ..										
Plague ... ..										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	10	.....	3	1	3	2	1	.....	9	.....
Erysipelas ... ..	7	.....					6	1	.....	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	17	.....	2	9	4	2	.....		14	.....
Typhus Fever ... ..										
Enteric Fever ... ..	3	.....			2		1	.....	3	.....
Pneumonia ... ..	18	.....	2	2	1	3	5	5	.....	11
Malaria ... ..										
Dysentery ... ..	1	.....			1					
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	.....			1					1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	.....	1						1	1
Poliomyelitis ... ..	2	.....	1	1					2	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12	.....		1	3	6	2	.....		3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	.....		2	1	2	.....	1	.....	1
Totals ... ..	78	.....	9	16	15	15	15	7	29	17

TABLE IV.  
RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1940.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes ... ..	77	90
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..		
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	1	
3 Scarlet Fever ... ..		
4 Whooping Cough ... ..		
5 Diphtheria ... ..		
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	1	2
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	
8 Syphilitic Diseases ... ..		1
9 Influenza ... ..	3	3
10 Measles ... ..	1	
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ... ..		
12 Ac. Infant Enceph. ... ..		
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.) ... ..		1
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod. ... ..	1	2
15 Cancer of Breast ... ..		1
16 Cancer, other Sites ... ..	9	6
17 Diabetes ... ..	1	2
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	2	12
19 Heart Disease ... ..	27	22
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys. ... ..	5	
21 Bronchitis ... ..	3	10
22 Pneumonia ... ..	7	4
23 Other Resp. Diseases ... ..	2	2
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod. ... ..		
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..		
26 Appendicitis ... ..		
27 Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	2	1
28 Nephritis ... ..		2
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis ... ..		1
30 Other Maternal Causes ... ..		
31 Premature Birth ... ..	2	1
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	1	2
33 Suicide ... ..		
34 Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	1	
35 Other Violent Causes ... ..	2	4
36 All Other Causes ... ..	5	11